

# ARTICLES

FOR

13-5-11<sup>18</sup>

## VISITATION

*Concerning certain MATTERS*

## ECCELESIASTICAL:

*EXHIBITED*

To the Ministers, Church-Wardens, and Side-  
men of every Parish within the

DIOCESS of *ELY*.

In the primory EPISCOPAL VISITATION  
OF THE

*Right Reverend Father in God*

BENJAMIN

LANEY

*By Divine Permission*

Lord Bishop of *ELY*.

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CAMBRIDGE:

Printed by *John Field*, Printer to the Univerſitie.

M DC LXVIII.

*The Tenor of the Oath of the Church-Wardens,  
and Sworn-men.*


**Y**OU shall Swear, that you, and every  
of you, shall faithfully execute your  
several Offices of Church-wardens  
and Side-men, according to the Kings Ec-  
clesiastical Laws. So help you God and the  
Contents of his Holy Gospel.

Articles

Articles of Instruction to the Church-wardens and Side-men, in some more special matters to direct them in their Presentments. *Anno Domini 1668.*

TIT. I.

*Concerning Churches, Chappels, with the Ornaments and Furniture thereunto belonging.*

1  S your Parish Church or Chappel in good and sufficient repair, both for the Roof, *Can. 85.* Windows, Floor, and Seats?

2 Hath any part of your Church, Chappel, or Steeple been demolished or pulled down? what part, and how long since? or any of the Lead, Timber or Bells thereunto

formerly belonging, any way imbezelled or sold, and by whom?

3 Is there a decent Font of stone with a cover? and doth the same stand at or near the nether end of your Church, in such manner as anciently and usually Fonts have stood for the baptizing of children? Doth the Minister baptize publickly onely in the Font?

Is there a decent Communion-table in your Chancel, with a decent Carpet, and another Covering of white Linnen, to be spread thereon at the time of the Administration of the Lords Supper? and have you a fair Chalice or Communion-cup, with a Cover, and one or more Flagons? have they been profaned by common use? 82

4 Have you a convenient Seat or Pew wherein to read Divine Service; a Pulpit with a decent Cloth or Cushion, a large Bible of the last Translation, and a Book of Common-prayer lately published *Anno 1662*, the Book of Homilies set forth by Authority, and a Printed Table of the degrees wherein Marriages are prohibited, 82 83 80 Stat. 99

58 bited, and a Book of Canons and Constitutions Ecclesiastical; and  
a Decent Surplice and Hood?

87 5 Have ye a Register-book in Parchment of Christenings, Bu-  
70 rials, and Marriages? and is the same kept in all points according  
to the ancient use?

52 6 Have you a Book of Paper, to record the names and Licenses  
of such Strangers as are admitted to Preach in your Church or  
Chappel? and do such Strangers subscribe their Names? As Also  
70 a third Book for the Church-wardens Accounts? as also a Chest  
with Locks and Keys, wherein to keep the said Books, and the  
aforementioned Furniture?

### TIT. II.

*Concerning the Church-yard, the Houses, Glebes and  
Tythes belonging to the Church.*

1 **I**S your Church-yard sufficiently fenced, and decently kept?  
Hath any person encroached upon the same, or made any  
door into it? and how long since?

2 Is the House of your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, and the Out-  
houses in good repair? have any of them been defaced or pulled  
down without license? have there been any encroachments made  
upon the same, or any of the ancient marks or bounds removed or  
changed? and by whom?

3 Have you a true and perfect Terrier of all the Glebe-lands,  
Gardens, Orchards, Tenements or Cottages belonging to your  
C.87. Parsonage or Vicarage? As also a note of such Pensions, Rate-  
tythes, and portions of Tythes, or other yearly profits (either  
within or without your Parish) as belong thereunto? Have any  
of the same been withheld from your Minister? and by whom, as  
you know, or have heard?

### TIT. III.

*Concerning Ministers.*

1 **I**S your Minister a Priest or Deacon, Episcopally ordained,  
according to the Laws of the Church of England?

2 Hath

# Articles of Visitation.

3

2 Hath he been legally instituted and inducted into his Benefice? And did he within two moneths after his induction, publickly in the Church upon some Sunday or Holiday, in the time of Divine Service, read the 39 Articles of the Church of *England*, established by Authority, and there publickly declare his assent thereunto?

3 Is he resident among you? how many weeks hath he been absent from you without urgent necessity?

4 Hath your Minister a Curate? Is he in Holy Orders, and conformable to the Laws of the Church? Is he allowed by the Ordinary? *Can. 47.*

5 Doth your Parson, Vicar, Curate, or Lecturer, if you have any, perform his Office in all things according to the Rubrick of the Book of Common-Prayer lately established, and the Act of Uniformity published therewith? without either diminishing in regard of Preaching or in any other respect, or adding any thing in the Matter or Form. 14

6 Doth your Minister at the Reading Divine Service, wear a Surplice and Hood? 58

7 Doth he observe the Holidays and Fasting-days, the Ember-weeks, and the yearly Preambulation of Rogation-week, as is appointed by the Rubrick.

8 Is your Minister licensed to Preach? if so, doth he constantly 45, 46, (not having a reasonable impediment) Preach one sermon in your 47. Church or Chappel every Sunday? or if he be not licensed, or be hindred, doth he procure one to supply his Office by preaching or Reading one of the Homilies

9 Doth your Minister instruct the youth in your Parish in the Church Catechism, and prepare and present them to be confirmed by the Bishop? *Can. 59. Rubr. before Confirmation.*

10 Doth he neglect or delay to visit the Sick, or to Baptize any Infant that is in danger of death? Doth he baptize any without Godfathers and Godmothers, or admit either of the Parents to be Godfather or Godmother to their own Children? 67 69

11 Hath your Minister married any persons without publishing the Banns on three Sundays or Holidays, or hath he married any 62 101

in private houses, or not between the hours of eight and twelve in the morning, unless he had a licence or dispensation from the Arch-Bishop or Bishop of this Diocess, or from their Chancellors or Vicars General, or from the Commissary for faculties so to do? Name who were the parties so married, and who were present at such marriages, and what Minister married them as far as you know or have heard.

72      12 Hath your Minister taken upon him to appoint any publick  
or private Fasts, Prophesyings or Exercises not appointed by Au-  
73      thority? Or doth he, or any other, either Minister or Lay-person  
hold any Conventicles or Meetings in private houses within your  
Parish, for people of several Families to resort unto, under the pre-  
tence of Preaching, Praying, Thanksgiving or Humiliation, con-  
trary to the Laws and Canons in that case provided?

75      13 Is your Parson, Vicar, Curate or Lecturer, a man of a sober  
life and conversation? or is his carriage in any kinde disorderly or  
scandalous, and unbeseeming a Minister?

14 Hath the Sacrament of the Lords Supper been duly Admin-  
istred in your Church or Chappel so often, and at such conveni-  
ent times, that at least thrice every year, (whereof once at *Ea-*  
*ster*) every Parishioner within your Parish, being of the age of six-  
teen years or upwards, might receive the same?

3. *Fac. 5.* 15 Hath any Childe been Baptized within your Parish in any  
private House, (except upon great necessity; and if so what was  
the same?) or by any Lay-Person, or Midwife, or Popish Priest,  
or by any other then your own Minister? and hath such Childe  
*Rubr. of* which was privately baptized, if he lived, been afterwards brought  
*private* to your Church, that the Congregation and the Minister of the  
*Bapt.* Parish (in case such Childe was not Baptized by him) might be  
certified whether such Childe was lawfully Baptized, or no?

*Rat. Can.* 16 Doth your Minister publickly in your Parish Church or  
Chappel, once every year, read over the Constitutions and Can-  
ons Ecclesiastical, agreed upon by the Clergy of both Provinces  
*An. Dom. 1603.* in such manner as is commanded to be done?

*C. 65.* 17 Doth your Minister every six moneths in your Parish  
Church,

## Articles of Visitation.

5

Church, openly in the time of Divine Service, upon some Sunday denounce and declare Excommunicate by name, all such of your Parish as do persevere in the sentence of Excommunication, not seeking to be absolved?

18 Hath your Minister said Divine Service while any Excommunicate person hath been present in the Church? or hath he delayed to denounce any Excommunication, Suspension, or Absolution that hath been sent unto him from his Ordinary, further then the next Sunday or Holiday after the receipt thereof under Seal?

19 Doth your Minister, upon Sundays at Morning Prayer declare unto the Parishioners, what Fasting-days and Holidays are to be kept the week following? *Rubr. after Nic. Creed.* C.64.

20 Hath any strange Minister been admitted to preach in your Church, who did not before the Church-wardens subscribe his name in your Book provided for that purpose, and the day when he Preached, and the name of the Bishop or Bishops of whom he had licence to Preach? C. 50. 52.

### TIT. IV.

#### Concerning the Parishioners.

1 **I**S there any in your Parish that make profession of any other Religion, then what is established in the Church of England?

And that refuse to come to the publick Assemblies, Prayers, or Service of the Church? If there be any what are their names? *Act for Uniformity 1 Q. Eliz.* C.109.

2 Is there any person in your Parish, that lieth under a common fame, or suspicion of Adultery, Fornication, or Incest? Are there any common Drunkards within your Parish, or common Swearers, or Blasphemers of Gods name, or any that are noted to be Railers, unclean or filthy Talkers, or sowers of Sedition, Faction, and Discord amongst their Neighbours?

3 Do any of your Parish upon Sundays or Holidays follow their bodily and ordinary labour, or permit their servants so to do? Are any Shops kept open, or wares sold? or do any Vintners, Inn-keepers, or other Victuallers or sellers of Beer or Ale, suffer any persons to tiddle or game in their houses upon those days?

4 Doth

*Can.* 13. 4 Doth every person in your Parish duly resort to your Church or Chappel upon Sundays and Holidays, and as well during Divine Service, as preaching the Word of God, demean themselves reverently, uncovering their heads, kneeling at Prayers, standing up when the Creed and Gospel are read?

*Rubr.* 18  
*Rubr. of Bapt.* 5 Is there any in your Parish that refuse to send their Infant-children to be Baptized in the Church, unless in case of urgent danger? or do they send them to be Baptized in other Parishes? or are they Baptized after other Form then is appointed? or are they kept unbaptized longer then is allowed? or is there any Infants, or more aged persons as yet unbaptized?

*Rubr. after Commun.* 112  
27, 28. 6 Is there any person in your Parish of 16 years of age who doth not receive the Sacrament three times in the year, of which *Easter* is always to be one? Doth any refuse to receive it kneeling, or resort to other Parishes? or do any Strangers come to your Parish-Church to receive it?

63 7 Are there any in your Parish that be denounced and declared excommunicate for any crime committed? How long have they been so excommunicated? and do any of your Parish keep society with them before they be reconciled to the Church, and absolved?

*Expressed in a table set forth by Authority. Anno Dom. 1563.* 8 Are there any living in your Parish, who have been unlawfully married, contrary to the Laws of God? or any that being lawfully Divorced have Married again? or any that being lawfully Married, and not Separated or Divorced by course of Law, do not cohabit together?

99  
107 9 Are there any Married Women in your Parish, who after their Delivery from the Peril of Childe-birth, refuse to make their publick Thanksgiving to God in the Church? And when they come so to do, do they come decently Apparellled, and make their offerings according to Custom?

*Rubr.* 10 Are there any that refuse to pay their duty for *Easter Offerings*, or refuse to contribute to the Rates made for the repair of your Church or Chappel, or any thing thereunto belonging?

*Rubr. b.* 11 Do any refuse to bury their dead according to the Rites of the Church of *England*? and are there any Wills or Testaments of

of persons dead in your Parish, that be yet unproved? or any Goods administred without a due grant from the Ordinary? did any dying in your Parish, or elsewhere, leave any Legacy to your Church or Chappel, or to the use of the poor, or to any other pious and charitable purposes? What were those Legacies, and how have they been bestowed?

12 Is there any Strife and Contention among any of your Parish for their Pews or Seats in your Church? Have any new Pews been erected in your Chancel, or in the body of your Church or Chappel, without leave from the Ordinary?

13 Do all, and every houlholder of your Parish, Fathers, Ma- *Can. 59.*  
sters, Mothers, and Mistresses, cause their Children, Servants and Apprentices, which have not learn'd their Catechism to come unto Church on Sundays and Holidays in the afternoon, obediently to hear, and to be ordered by the Minister till they have learned the same?

**T I T. V.**

*Concerning Parish-Clerks, and Sextons.*

1 **H**Ave you belonging to your Church or Chappel a Parish- *Can. 91.*  
Clerk, aged 21 years at the least? Is he of honest life and conversation? and sufficient or able to perform his duty in Reading, Writing and Singing? Is he chosen by your Minister, and doth he duly attend him in all Divine Services at the Church? are his Wages duly paid unto him? or who withholdeth the same from him?

2 Doth he diligently do his duty in keeping the Church clean and decent, in tolling and ringing the Bells before Divine Service, and when any person is passing out of this life, doth he upon notice, toll a Bell, that the neighbours may thereby be warned to commend the dying person to the grace and favour of God?

**T I T. VI.**

*Concerning School-masters, Schools, Physicians, Chirurgeons and Midwives.*

1 **D**Oth any man keep a publick or private School in your *Can. 77.*  
Parish, who is not allowed thereunto by his Ordinary? *79.*  
doth.

doth he teach his Scholars the Catechism of Religion set forth by Authority: doth he cause his Scholars upon Sundays and Holidays orderly to repair to your Church or Chappel, and see that they behave themselves quietly and reverently during the time of Divine Service and Sermon?

2 Doth any in your Parish practise Physick or Chyrurgery? or any woman take upon her to exercise the office of Midwife, without license from the Ordinary?

## T I T. VII.

### *Concerning Church-wardens and Side-men.*

*Can. 89. 1* **A**Re the Church-wardens of your Parish yearly and duly chosen by the joynt consent of your Minister and Parishioners: or one of them by your Minister, and the other by the Parishioners?

2 Have the former and last Church-wardens given up their Accounts to the Parish, and delivered up to the succeeding Churchwardens the moneys remaining in their hands, together with all other things belonging to your Church or Chappel?

*Rubr. at  
Commun.*

3 You are further to understand, That according to your Office, you are to provide against every Communion appointed in your Church or Chappel, a sufficient quantity of fine white Bread, and of good Wine, according to the number of Communicants.

**Y**ou also are to exhibit a Bill of Presentments to this Court, of all Ecclesiastical offences committed by any that now is, or of late was inhabiting within your Parish; especially concerning the matters mentioned in the precedent Articles, and therein to take the assistance of your Minister.

## F I N I S.

ARTICLES  
FOR *B. 5. 11 '19*  
VISITATION

*Concerning certain MATTERS*

Ecclesiastical:

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M. DC. LXXI.